

9-6-2007

## Montana Kaimin, September 6, 2007

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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Thursday  
September 6, 2007

Forecast

High 79F  
Low 47F



News

Hang gliding  
haven

4

News

17-year-old  
UM junior

7

On Campus  
Today

- Sustainable Transportation Conference  
\*Expo Mansfield Mall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
\*Keynote Address, "Come Hell or High Water" UC Ballroom, 6 p.m.
- Lecture, Rafael Chacon "Painting as Propaganda: Art in Glacier in the Early 20th Century" Social Science 356, 4:10 - 5:30 p.m.  
- UM News and Events Calendar

Around the  
World

- Guatemala:**  
Two candidates from Nobel Laureate and presidential hopeful Rigoberta Menchu's political party were shot dead Wednesday amid a wave of campaign-related violence that has claimed about 50 lives.
- Nicaragua:**  
Doctors threw together a makeshift clinic Wednesday after Hurricane Felix wrecked villages on Nicaragua's Caribbean coast. The death toll rose to at least 18 with dozens more missing.
- Algeria:**  
Security forces bombed a suspected militant hideout in Algeria early Wednesday, killing seven people believed to be responsible for a deadly ambush this week, officials said.  
- Associated Press

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## Elton John ticketing system collapses



Kristine Paulsen/Montana Kaimin

Sophomore Kelsi Steele, an Elton John fan, receives her wristband Tuesday from Nadia Selim, a box office student clerk. Steele, along with hundreds of other fans, waited in line Tuesday afternoon at the Adams Center for wristbands in the hope of getting their name drawn Wednesday for first pick at ticket purchases.

**Jessica Mayrer**  
**Alex Sakariassen**  
MONTANA KAIMIN

A snafu in the method the University used to sell Elton John tickets Wednesday caused hundreds of people lined up at four ticket outlets to walk away enraged and empty-handed while nearly all concert tickets went to online buyers.

The University had directed fans on Tuesday to line up for numbered wristbands that would ensure them a place in line when

the approximately 7,000 tickets went on sale Wednesday at 10 a.m.

But when 10 a.m. rolled around, attendants at outlets at the University Center, Worden's, Southgate Mall and the Adams Center found it almost impossible to get online to sell tickets.

"We couldn't sell one ticket," said Chris Niswanger from Worden's. "I guess the Internet sales jammed the system, which is really bizarre."

The Source in the UC did not sell a single ticket either, and only

a handful of people at Southgate Mall and the Adams Center got their hands on the prize.

Ninety-seven percent of the tickets were sold online, said Adrienne Donald, UC assistant director for communication and marketing, who was present at The Source yesterday morning.

"It's so bad," Donald said. "They were not supposed to release all these tickets online."

At the Adams Center, director Mary Muse announced over a megaphone at 10:40 a.m. that all tickets for the Sept. 28 concert had

sold out. She made the same announcement minutes later at The Source, encountering a disbelieving and angry crowd after each announcement.

One woman bagged tickets at Southgate Mall, but was able to purchase only five of the maximum six allowed. None of the five seats were together.

In a press release earlier in the week, University GrizTix operators had advised fans to go to the Adams Center on Tuesday to get numbered wristbands "to ensure

**See ELTON, page 4**

## New owners will renovate Wilma

**Mike Gerrity**  
MONTANA KAIMIN

A Missoula community gem, The Wilma Theatre, will be under new ownership once its sale to Rocky Mountain Development Group is finalized in October.

Rick Wishcamper, the group's co-founder, said the theater will be treated to a total overhaul of restorations that will include a new sign and marquee outside, as well as a new concession stand, bathrooms, carpets and dressing rooms, while the main theater area will be cleaned and remain essentially the same.

"We want to bring (The Wilma) back to its former glory, so to speak," Wishcamper said.

The fate of The Wilma's small movie theater, however, has yet to be determined.

"It's possible we may keep the theater," Wishcamper said. "It's also possible we may turn it into a bistro or coffee shop."

Wishcamper said the possibility of using the theater area as retail space would coincide with their plans to turn the 26 rental apartments in the Wilma's upper floors into 22 owner-occupied condominiums, with price tags averaging about \$200,000.

"Having a coffee shop or a bistro in that space would be a wonderful amenity for the residents of our condos," Wishcamper said.

The condos, which have all been pre-sold to potential residents, are forcing some of the Wilma's pre-existing apartment renters out. Many of them will not be able to afford the flat fee to purchase the condominium.

**See WILMA, page 4**

## ASUM endorses World AIDS Day

**Mark Page**  
MONTANA KAIMIN

ASUM passed a resolution Wednesday evening urging student groups around campus to become involved in World AIDS Day on Dec. 1.

The ASUM senate debated this bill at length, asking themselves if recognition by their organization would actually accomplish something.

The author of the resolution, Sen. Kevin Nalty, expressed his feelings on why this bill should be passed.

"I don't want this to be a feel-good amendment," Nalty said. "It is a call to action."

The resolution passed after an hour-long discussion, including a debate on whether to include a clause insinuating students have a moral obligation to use their edu-

cation to help others.

Sen. Trevor Hunter summed up the opinions of those who wanted the alteration excluding the word "moral" by expressing his opinion that the removal will not alter the intent.

"We cannot dictate moral judgments," Hunter said. "It doesn't remove any merits from this bill to remove this word, it makes it cleaner."

University Athletic Director Jim O'Day opened the meeting Wednesday giving the student government a run-down of issues on his agenda. These included the success of free student tickets for all UM athletic events, the rearranging of student seating at events and the athletic department's approach in dealing with a Grizzly football player charged with murder over the summer and

**See ASUM, page 4**

EDITORIAL

# Dropping the ball could hurt UM in the long run

Ticket Sales 101: When you say concert tickets will be available at The Source, Worden's Market and Southgate Mall, make sure they are.

This seems like a no-brainer, but apparently the concept didn't reach the Adams Center in time for Wednesday's sale of tickets for Elton John's Sept. 28 concert.

After going to great lengths to explain their bizarre wristband lottery system, Adams Center director Mary Muse watched helplessly as the system deteriorated before her eyes, leaving UM students and Missoula residents ticket-less and seething.

In a rightfully apologetic statement released Wednesday evening, Muse explained that all tickets came from one ticket inventory. Translation: no tickets were set aside to be purchased in person. In an age when thousands of people can purchase tickets almost instantly on the Internet, this lack of foresight is appalling.

Admittedly, the Kaimin ran a headline yesterday stating that having a wristband didn't guarantee you a ticket. But you'd think that the person whose wristband number got picked first would actually stand a fighting chance at scoring seats.

The already-miserable situation was compounded by the unwillingness of many UM officials to comment on how things went so wrong. Rumors swirled around campus, and will continue to until UM starts opening up. To be fair, UM Vice President for Administration and Finance Bob Durringer did agree to an interview, only to crassly show our reporter the door when she questioned the administration's role in the fiasco.

This is all in stark contrast to the lead-up to last year's Rolling Stones concert. Tickets were relatively easy to obtain, and a number of tickets were set aside for students at a discounted rate. We'll see how many UM students can scrounge up several hundred dollars to purchase tickets on eBay this time around.

Aside from angering Elton fans, Wednesday's ticketing meltdown won't bode well for UM. Not only has the University lost credibility with local concertgoers, it has also potentially damaged its ability to attract large acts in the future. The revenue from these acts is considerable; the Rolling Stones generated about \$100,000 UM. This misstep could cost the University in the future.

The Adams Center used a wristband lottery system to discourage fans from camping out for tickets. But after the plan dissolved, perhaps it's fitting that reporters – Kaimin and others – camped outside the Adams Center Wednesday evening looking for answers.

Seriously, UM, what happened?



Sean Breslin  
Editor

## UM didn't think ahead when planning sales

September 5, 2007 shall go down in history as the day of the Elton John ticket debacle at the U of M.

Many fans from Missoula and the surrounding areas, including myself, are rightfully angry. We were denied tickets because the University couldn't get their shit together. When I say "many," I mean every person who stood in line for hours at the Adams Center on September 4 to get wristbands. The wristband plan probably looked good on paper to those who could understand it. The University was well intentioned, I suppose; they were simply trying to organize what was sure to be a chaotic event. However, the ticket sales devolved into confusion anyway.

We all assumed that there were a certain amount of tickets allotted to each sale location. For some reason, though, all of the tickets went on sale online and over the phone. Because of a technical snafu, the tickets were sold out before those of us at The Source and other venues in Missoula could figure out what was happening. Finally, around eleven o'clock, someone representing University ticket sales came by and told the increasingly anxious crowd that they had waited for nothing. The entire thing was



absolutely ridiculous. Do we not have the right to be angry? Over the two days, I waited in lines for a total of five hours. What did I get? A bright green wristband and a bullshit apology.

I am, to say the least, extremely disappointed with how ticket sales were handled. What is wrong with a first-come-first-served system? It might have been slightly more chaotic, there would have been overnight camping, but fans who took the time to come out to the sale locations and wait would have had a chance to get their tickets.

– Catherine Ray, sophomore,  
psychology/creative writing

## Numbers don't add up for Elton John ticket sales

The brain trust at the University of Montana ticket office has struck again. In a daring homage to The Three Stooges, the powers that be conjured up an almost completely dysfunctional wristband-based ticket sales scheme for

the Elton John concert that resulted in the following spectacular sales figures.

Five tickets were sold at Southgate Mall, zero tickets were sold at Worden's and zero tickets were sold at the University Center. There were five windows trying to sell tickets at the Adams Center, where I was number 60 in line. I determined that one window managed to sell 15 tickets before a sellout was announced.

My research was interrupted by the arrival of a television news reporter. I gave an interview. The ticket office staff declined. I imagine that it's hard to give an interview when you're cowering in your office trying to come up with a plausible explanation for this self-inflicted debacle.

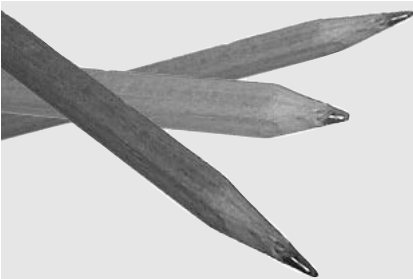
So, what happened to the more than 7,100 tickets that were not sold to wristband wearers? They were all sold on the Internet, many of them, I suspect, to eBay scalpers who will be happy to part with them for a modest sum.

This pathetic mess could have been avoided by simply allotting a fixed number of tickets for each sales venue, including the Internet. After you finish buying your ticket from a scalper, be sure to ask the ticket office management why they didn't think of that. Maybe they don't get paid to think.

– Jeff Stevens,  
Missoula

Pissed off about the Elton John tickets?

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and guest columns.

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by Sean Breslin  
[www.montanakaimin.com](http://www.montanakaimin.com)

Montana Kaimin

110 Years

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The Montana Kaimin, in its 110th year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

Send letters to the editor to [letters@kaimin.umt.edu](mailto:letters@kaimin.umt.edu) or drop them off in Anderson Hall 208.

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KAIMIN is a Salish word for messages.

## Accuracy Watch

The Montana Kaimin is committed to accuracy in its reports. If you think the Kaimin has committed an error of fact, please call us at **243-2394** or e-mail [editor@kaimin.umt.edu](mailto:editor@kaimin.umt.edu) and let us know. If we find a factual error we will correct it.

## Can you draw?

Do your friends think you're funnier than they are? Do you have more comic books than textbooks? Then you're a perfect candidate for a Kaimin Kartoonist! If you're interested in submitting guest cartoons, please bring samples to Don Anderson Hall, Room 208, and ask for a news editor.

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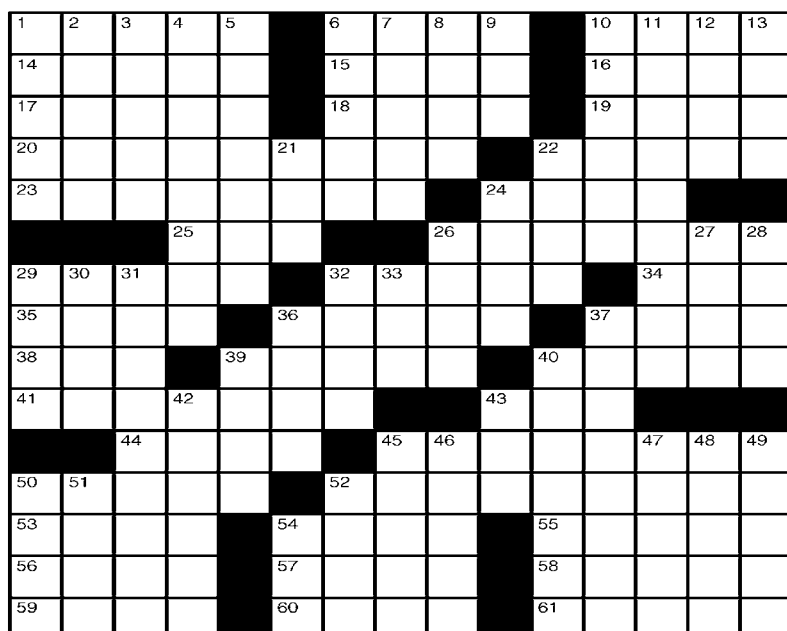
Tickets available at all Onix outlets, including the Adams Center Box Office, The Source, Southgate Mall, Worden's Market, full-price at 888 MONTANA, or on the web at [www.goritz.com](http://www.goritz.com)

[www.umproductions.org](http://www.umproductions.org)

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Inflatable floaters
  - Black-and-yellow stinger
  - Money owed
  - Writer Glasgow
  - vera
  - Fashion magazine
  - Texas shrine
  - Pool pull-over
  - Opponents
  - Ingredient
  - Transmits
  - Plucking tool
  - Dance partner?
  - Harden
  - Forum footwear
  - Paint layers
  - Laurel and Mikita
  - Also
  - Part of B.A.
  - Blockade
  - Second to none
  - Columnist Hentoff
  - Campers' abodes
  - Molds
  - Splashes clumsily
  - Long period
  - Precipitation
  - Frontal lobe surgery
  - Mathematics sign
  - Abject meal
  - Guinness or Baldwin
  - Put on
  - Pizzey and Gray
  - Lone Leitch
  - Facial feature
  - Feel
  - Give guff to
  - Puts in a lawn
  - Difficult journeys

- DOWN**
- Respond to a stimulus
  - Permit
  - Olympic symbol
  - Violent windstorms
  - Takes a couch break



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9/6/07

### Solutions

E	P	A	L	S	M	E	S	D	E	S	O	N
S	T	E	S	H	E	D	E	E	D	V	G	V
N	V	T	N	E	D	I	L	H	V	T	O	D
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E	O	N	N	O	E	N	V	A		T	T	N
L	V	U	O	S	T	I	T	V	S	O	G	E

- Irrigate
- Shepard and King
- Alphabetize
- Rally leader
- Argue for
- Extends
- Used leeches
- 1979 Polanski film
- Trawling device
- Chips off the old block
- Rational
- Droops
- Clueless
- Heavy imbibers
- Fires
- Spoken
- Lawyers
- Commandment breakages
- Asian holiday
- Spotted
- Casual talker
- day and age
- Most calm

- Tasty toppings
- Flow's partner
- Glaringly vivid
- Forewarnings
- Think out loud
- Capital of Belarus
- Affirmative responses
- Large group
- Old-time panelist Chase
- Jolly laugh
- London loos

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**2pm-3pm UC Ballroom**  
Native American Organizations

**5pm-6pm UC Ballroom**  
Job Talk/Journalism

**6pm-8pm UC Ballroom**  
Catered Reception/Keynote

**8:30pm UC Ballroom**  
Native American Organizations

**Wednesday**

**9am-10am UC Ballroom**  
Job Talk/Radio-Television

**10am-11am Masquer Theatre ParTV Building**  
Job/Talk/Drama-Dance

**11am-noon UC Ballroom**  
Job Talk/Media Arts

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# South campus planners work with hang gliders

**Oriana Turley**  
MONTANA KAIMIN

The University of Montana has kept hang gliders in mind while designing a new face for south campus.

"The hang gliders have come to all the meetings," said Rosi Keller, chairwoman of the South Campus Master Plan Committee. "One thing we made sure is that all the users came to the committees and be heard."

The South Campus Master Plan is a design to develop UM-owned land at the corner of South Avenue and Higgins Avenue where the UM golf course currently is. It will provide more buildings for academics, more student housing, more sports facilities and more parking.

Hang gliders like their current landing space, located on the south side of Dornblaser Field, because it is an area they don't have to share.

"Right now we've got our own area where we can land and don't have to look out for soccer players and such," said local hang glider Hank Butzel.

Although hang gliders are giving up their current landing strip, Butzel said he was glad to see UM planners work with hang gliders on alternatives.

An indoor practice gym will be built over the current landing area and gliders will land in nearby fields that are part of the South Campus Master Plan.

"We would be able to use these fields but it would be more of a cooperative," Butzel said. "We will have to tell campus recreation when we would be using these areas, but we're not too worried. They are definitely including us in their plan."

The only other concern for gliders is the lack of landing space during the actual construction phase of south campus.

"When anything gets going construction-wise, it's going to be a mess for us for a while. But that's just something we've got to work around," Butzel said.

A hang glider needs about 600 yards of relatively flat area, without obstacles to land, he said.

Butzel said a benefit of the proposed landing area is that, as the plan stands now, there are parking lots on the east side of the fields. This would make it easier for gliders to land because there would be no trees.

Hang gliders have been launching off of Mount Sentinel for more than 30 years because of the excellent flying conditions.

"Hang gliding has a very long,

rich tradition in Missoula," said Lisa Tate, the regional director of the U.S. Hang Gliding Association. "The Mount Sentinel launch is a crown jewel site for hang gliders. It's one of the oldest inland hang gliding sites. It isn't a normal hang gliding site; it's really a treasure."

Flying into the city is also convenient for gliders.

"Between the quality of the flying and the proximity to the city, it's really quite a special place for the hang gliding community," Tate said.

Because the University provides the only landing site for gliders who launch off Mount Sentinel, it has been essential that the University and the local hang gliding community get along.

There were some concerns about whether their flying patterns interfered with commercial flight patterns, Keller said, but those issues didn't affect the plans to provide space for gliders to land.

"They have worked with us. The campus planners have always included us. It's never going to be ideal for everybody but it's just something we're going to have to work with," Butzel said.

## WILMA

Continued from page 1

though the current tenants were first given the option to buy a condo, Wishcamper said.

University of Montana junior James Greer is among those residents that will have to move out sometime after Nov. 1 once the residence security ends.

"We're all pretty much being kicked out," Greer said.

Though he said he's happy that the new owners will maintain the integrity of the building and keep the independent movie theater, Greer said he hopes that the condo takeover will not become a trend for Missoula residences.

"I hope that Missoula keeps in mind that not everyone can afford a luxury condo," he said.

Current resident Chris Lombardi said he also will have to find a new place to live in November, but that the move makes good business sense to him.

"It probably makes sense financially for them. I've got no hard feelings for them," Lombardi said.

Greer also said the purchase is an indication of Missoula's prosperous economy.

"It shows we live in a city that's doing well," Greer said.

*The*  
**Montana**  
**Kaimin:**  
*Goes great with coffee.*

## ELTON

Continued from page 1

fair and orderly ticket purchases." People had to choose from four wristband colors that determined which of the four ticket outlets they would attend Wednesday. They were warned not to remove the band or they would be ineligible for a chance at a ticket.

About 9:30 a.m. Wednesday the ticket sellers at each outlet drew a number of a wristband whose holder would be first in line. Those with numbers next in the sequence were asked to line up and wait for the 10 a.m. start time.

Instructions warned those who had secured bands that a wristband did not guarantee they would be successful in buying tickets. GrizTix officials said 1,500 bands would be available for the Adams Center and 500 for each of the other outlets.

However, the bands of colored plastic proved worthless for hundreds of incensed Missoula residents as the system crumbled.

Late Wednesday the University issued an apology "to our outlets and those that took time to stand in line."

However, earlier in the day as the fallout was discussed across town, Bob Durringer, UM's vice president for administration and finance, said the University didn't do anything wrong.

In an interview, a Kaimin reporter asked Durringer: "There are a lot of people who are very upset ... So I'm kind of wondering how the University plans on either making it right or ..."

Durringer told the reporter to turn off an audio recorder before he responded.

"For you to imply that we're doing something wrong is just bullshit," Durringer snapped.

But the empty-handed crowds were looking for someone to blame.

"That's not right, somebody should be fired over this," said Karen Ward after waiting in line for over an hour at the Adams Center.

Kristy Johnston's actions spoke to the anger of many in the crowd as she tore the purple wristband from her wrist and dropped it to the ground.

So what went wrong?

Muse was unavailable for comment Wednesday afternoon, but earlier in the day explained it from her perspective.

Everyone was selling from the same inventory and no tickets

were set aside for the individual ticket outlets, she told the Kaimin Wednesday morning in the Adams Center.

"It's not that anything went wrong. It's that everyone is buying off the same inventory," she said. "People who have bought online, some of them are experiencing greater success."

But many questioned the planning that went into ticket sales.

"I don't think anyone realized that online ticket sales would go that fast," Donald said.

The dominoes began to fall even before the ticket windows opened at the Adams Center. Just minutes before 10 a.m., an individual inside the ticket line barricades collapsed. Wristband holders called for medical aid and cleared a path for medical technicians from a waiting ambulance.

Nothing improved as the morning dragged on. Four minutes after ticket sales started, whispers of a sold-out concert began to filter through the crowd, generating rumblings of concern and more than a few choice phrases that persisted until the ticket pool was confirmed dry.

According to Donald, the atmosphere at The Source was one more of understanding than open hostility. Many in the line were angry and shouted at Muse after she made the announcement, but Donald said most understood that the outlet staff was not at fault.

"We weren't in a very good situation ourselves, and we wanted to sell those tickets to people," Donald said.

Montana State University Bozeman put Elton John tickets on sale Wednesday morning, too.

The system was slow as MSU servers worked overtime, but many standing in lines came away with tickets. "It went as smoothly as could be," said Michelle Cook from MSU's Sports Facilities Office.

MSU outsources its Web sales through TicketsWest, a ticketing service.

UM distributes its tickets through GrizTix. Muse and her staff at the Adams Center oversee the entire GrizTix system.

Promoters for the Rolling Stones concert last fall at Washington-Grizzly Stadium required UM to use Ticketmaster, Durringer said.

As of Wednesday night, three sets of Elton John tickets were available on eBay at prices ranging from \$200 to more \$500 dollars.

GrizTix prices for the concert were either \$67 or \$97.

## ASUM

Continued from page 1

another player's dismissal due to an arrest.

O'Day said he felt sorry for the students involved and is maintaining a connection with the students' families as they undergo their respective legal processes.

Also discussed at the meeting was the allocation of \$500 to the Environmental Action Community organization for an event they have planned for Thursday and Friday.

The event will begin Thursday at 10 a.m. in the UC and will include workshops and speeches about sustainable transport.

ASUM also debated the formation of a committee designed to address the issue of publishing a bi-weekly feature in the Kaimin profiling different student groups supported by ASUM.

Sen. Sean Morrison said ASUM should require the Kaimin to allocate space for the features.

"I would never tell the Kaimin what to report but I do think we should have our own room in the paper," Morrison said.

ASUM President Dustin Leftridge and Vice President Tara Ness both roundly rejected these ideas saying the Kaimin must be allowed to operate independently to avoid conflict and protect First Amendment rights on campus.

## GREEK LIFE FRATERNITY RECRUITMENT

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## UM runners hopeful going into home meet



Hugh Carey/Montana Kaimin

The UM cross country team practices uphill running on Deer Creek Road in Pattee Canyon Wednesday afternoon. The cross country team will begin their season with the Montana Open Saturday morning at the UM Golf Course.

### Jake Grilley MONTANA KAIMIN

The University of Montana men's and women's cross country teams host two home meets this season, and they couldn't be more different.

On October 27, the University of Montana Golf Course is home to the Big Sky Conference Cross Country Championships, and the stakes will be high as the Montana men and women vie for a place on the podium.

This weekend, the Grizzlies won't have such a weight on their shoulders when they open the season with the non-scored Montana Open.

"A meet like this takes the pressure off," said junior runner Dan Bingham. "It is a good way to see what kind of shape we are in."

Head coach Tom Raunig agrees this weekend's race will be a good barometer for both teams.

"(A meet) is welcome after all the training this summer," Raunig said. "It is an opportunity to race and get a feel where everybody is at."

Raunig's team is training for this weekend's meet with higher goals and other meets in mind.

A preseason poll of Big Sky Conference coaches has the women's team finishing second in the conference and the men's team finishing third.

"We would like to exceed those expectations," Raunig said. "We are training for (this weekend's meet) as a building block for later."

This weekend's meet gives the Grizzlies the added advantage of having race experience on the conference championship course.

"It will be a good warm-up for conference," said sophomore runner Kara DeWalt. "It will be interesting to see how things end up and how smart we race."

This weekend Montana will see how things shake up when it competes against runners from conference rivals Eastern Washington, as well as Carroll College and Flathead Valley Community College.

Raunig believes veteran leadership on both teams plus added depth lends itself to a more competitive and focused training regimen and, he hopes, more success.

"Both teams are highly motivated," Raunig said.

Raunig said competition for the top seven varsity spots has his teams training more than in past years.

Bingham agrees.

"There is no set top seven," he said. "It keeps guys working hard – you can't settle in."

Spots on the varsity team are highly competitive, in part because both Montana teams had a strong group returning.

The women's team returned

seven letterwinners from a team that finished second in the Big Sky Conference last season. The men return nine from a squad that finished fourth in 2006.

The women's team is led by three-time All-Big Sky selection Allie Brosh. DeWalt is poised to be the Grizzlies' number two runner. Juniors Ashley Colbrese and Kim Tritz, sophomores Brooke Andrus and Leigh Fredrickson and senior Kaci Calaway are expected to round out the varsity seven.

The men's team returns a solid top six of senior Duncan Hendrick, juniors Eli Hermann, Jesse Loether and sophomores Brett Carter, Michael Fisher and Steven Gimpel along with Bingham, UM's third runner in 2005, who redshirted last year. In addition, a strong group of recruits will compete for the top seven spots.

Chris Zeller, head coach for

Eastern Washington, expects Montana to compete in an ever-improving Big Sky Conference.

"Montana's women's team is loaded," Zeller said. "I expect them to be up there with Northern Arizona and Weber (State) in the top three. The men's team has more depth than in previous years, I expect them to be in the top half."

Montana fans will have to wait until the second home meet to see if Zeller's predictions will come true.

This weekend they can go catch the Grizzlies as they take a first step toward those expectations.

"Cross country isn't typically a spectator sport," Bingham said. "It will be good to have fans rooting for us."

Fans can root for the Grizzlies at the Montana Open at the University Golf Course. The women's race begins at 9 a.m. and the men's race begins at 9:30 a.m.

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every football home game.



# Dismal openers for some Big Sky teams

**Amber Kuehn**  
MONTANA KAIMIN

Only five of the nine Big Sky Conference teams will take the field this weekend.

Eastern Washington, Montana State, Sacramento State and Weber State welcome the bye week. Of those four teams, Eastern Washington was the only one to win its game last weekend. The other three teams all played against Football Bowl Subdivision opponents.

Weber State head coach Ron McBride said he's glad his team has a week off to work on its weaknesses, adding that he wasn't happy with the Wildcats' performance at Boise State last Thursday.

"I didn't see much I liked because we didn't play well at all," he said. "We've got to get a little more in sync on the offensive side, and defensively we didn't tackle well enough."

McBride didn't make any excuses for his team, even though they were playing an esteemed Broncos team.

"The floodgates opened, and we didn't do much to close them," he said of their one-sided defeat.

McBride said Weber State was going to focus on fixing the team's weaknesses before preparing for the next opponent on the schedule — Cal Poly.

## Injury-filled openers

One of the downsides to playing high-caliber opponents the first game of the season is that players often get hurt.

That was the case for the Montana

State Bobcats in their game against Texas A&M last weekend. MSU running back Aaron Mason suffered a hip injury in the first half and is listed as day-to-day. Defensive lineman Brandon Hoffenbacker could be sidelined for four to six weeks after suffering a knee injury in the loss to the Aggies.

Portland State head coach Jerry Glanville has bigger medical concerns to worry about. The Vikings lost two sophomores to serious injuries in their loss to McNeese State. Fullback Bobby McClintock and quarterback Tygue Howland are out for the season with injuries requiring surgery.

McClintock suffered a torn ACL and a torn lateral meniscus. Howland hurt the second metatarsal in his left foot. This is the second season he has been injured — in 2006, Howland tore his ACL in the game against Cal.

As a result of Howland's injury, senior Brian White becomes the Vikings starting quarterback. He threw for 150 yards on 11-of-18 passing against McNeese State.

Northern Arizona also lost three

players in the season opener — offensive tackle Justin Tyler and running backs Josh Sayles and Aaron Jackson — to injuries.

## Weekend of milestones for NAU

As if a win isn't good enough.

Northern Arizona head football coach Jerome Souers notched his 50th career victory in the Lumberjacks' 47-0 thumping over Western New Mexico. Now, Souers is tied for 10th on the Big Sky's all-time win list with former Weber State coach Sark Arslanian. Souers is in his 10th season with the Lumberjacks and needs just one win to tie former Montana coach Jack Swarthout for ninth place.

Thursday's victory also marked the 400th win in the history of the NAU football program, which began in 1915. It was also the first shutout since beating Sacramento State 24-0 in 2004, and was the largest margin of defeat since a 75-0 win over Western New Mexico in 1996.

## No luck in the end zone for Vikings

Portland State couldn't find a way to punch it in the end zone on Saturday.

The Vikings didn't score a single touchdown in their loss to McNeese State. The only points the Vikings put on the board came from four field goals, courtesy of kicker Chris Chalmers.

## MSU puts up first points

Montana State held a brief lead over Texas A&M, when the Bobcats drew first blood at the 9:44 mark in the first quarter.

Quarterback Jack Rolovich hit tight end Elliot Barnhart on an 8-yard touchdown pass, but the Aggies would go on to score 38 unanswered points.



# Sports a constant in times of tragedy

**Roman Stubbs**  
MONTANA KAIMIN

Watching the introduction to the Virginia Tech-East Carolina football game last Saturday sent chills up my spine.

Those chills came from the first home game of the season for the Hokies, only 4 1/2 months after the worst shooting massacre in U.S. history occurred feet away from Lane Stadium. Virginia Tech had been anticipating this game since the shooting. This team, this game, this season represents a return to normalcy for that university and community.

Nobody will ever remember the 17-7 Hokie victory, or the offensive struggles they had against East Carolina. But they will never forget the emotional moment of silence before the game, during which 32 balloons were released into the atmosphere, to honor the shooting victims. Down below, a sanctuary of 66,000 fans and mourners, were in union, cheering for a school and community they love.

This couldn't have happened in any other realm.

To think about what sports have meant to this country in recent history, you first have to remember where the United States has been the past six years. Sept. 11, Katrina and Virginia Tech: three historic calamities that have left this country soul-searching. To pick up the pieces in times of distress, is to understand the relevance of sports the past six years, starting with Sept. 11.

In the days after the attacks, the sports world hit an abrupt stop. All games were postponed at least a week; it took baseball a good nine days to resume. Nobody wanted to do anything. But somehow, some way, that wasn't acceptable by American standards. To accommodate for those tragic days, the United States took its spirit and patriotism to the ballparks and demonstrated unity under the lights. Never have the games been so appreciated.

Emotional legends were made the first night back at Shea, where players honored the NYPD and FDNY by wearing their insignias on their hats. Mike Piazza bawled in the pre-game, then hit a walk-off homer for the Mets, bringing them

closer in the wild card race, but more importantly, bringing the country closer together. Down 2-0 in the World Series and shifting to Yankee Stadium for the final games, the Yankees won three of the most dramatic and inspirational games in the history of baseball.

The United States will never forget Derek Jeters' heroics and Scott Brosius' guts. Not

only did they leave fans chanting for the Yankees, but also for a more fitting team: the USA.

The United States then saw Oakland Raiders head coach Jon Gruden, one of the most feared men in football, hold up a flag with tears streaming down his face. They saw the late and legendary announcer Jack Buck come back one last time to St. Louis, not to speak about his legacy, but to honor Sept. 11 victims with a poem titled "Ode to America." They saw American flags gracing golf greens nationwide. They saw relief.

The relationship between Sept. 11 and sports was contagious to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. And a year later, in September 2006, the Saints returned to the Superdome for Monday Night Football. The symbolism was unprecedented. A year earlier this great national sports venue was called home by thousands of New Orleans refugees, who came to the Superdome for haven, but left with memories of a haunted stadium filled with echoes of pain and loss. On this night, there were no more echoes of pain. Instead, there were images of one of the most inspirational games in NFL history, where fans took in the first quarter blocked punt, the talents of Reggie Bush, and more importantly, the efforts of a football team to take a city on its back and lead it back to normalcy. The city was still ravaged, many of its people still suffering. Things had changed the South's most vibrant city. However, the one constant was the Saints. For at least three hours every Sunday they could help people forget about enduring life after a storm of biblical proportions, and help turn FEMA talk into NFC South talk. That's the influential nature of sports.

It's disappointing to see the negative perception of sports recently. It's sad to see the cheat wave hit, and not to be able to sincerely feel good about Barry Bonds hitting 756 home runs. It's sad to know that NBA teams may have lost games due to mafia-influenced referees fixing games for Vegas. Its sad to watch the Little League World Series and wonder if a kid dominating on the mound is really 12, or maybe 14. The cloud that continues to hover over sports at present takes advantage of the games we love, games which have been there to offer solace through catastrophes like Sept. 11, Katrina and Virginia Tech.

But to look deeper is to look at what sports have meant to this country in times of tragedy.

Through sports, through the best and the worst, the United States can be together. And through the ordeals the United States has stared down in the past six years, people can realize how powerful sports can really be.

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17-year-old junior excels at UM

Lauren Russell  
MONTANA KAIMIN

From Kazakhstan to UM, Adina Kaliyeva has always made academic success her priority.

The University of Montana junior and a native of Kazakhstan excels at UM, maintaining a 4.0 cumulative GPA as a business finance major.

By the way, she's only 17.

The daughter of a Kazakh diplomat, Kaliyeva stood out as a bright student since the age of five. Her sister Alua remembers the early development of Adina's diligent work ethic.

"She was really interested in studying from the very beginning, even in the first grade," Alua said. "She was always reading and learning."

Kaliyeva's intellectual drive enabled her to test out of third grade and graduate high school when she was only 15.

Despite her academic success, Kaliyeva encountered some skepticism about her abilities, most notably from her math teachers.

"They would say 'She's too young to be in my classes,'" Kaliyeva said. "But I studied really hard, stayed after class and joined the math club. Now I love math."

Because Kaliyeva's family continually relocated for her father's job, Kaliyeva underwent the additional challenges of adapting to new cultures and languages.

After living in Turkey, London and Washington, D.C., Kaliyeva gained fluency in Kazakh, Russian and English. She also picked up some French and plans to learn Arabic.

"I'm the kind of person that adapts to cultures really fast," Kaliyeva said. "If I get sent to Africa, I can live in Africa."

When looking for a university, Kaliyeva focused her search on

U.S. schools to be near her family in Washington, D.C. A friend recommended UM as a calm, quiet school with a good academic record.

"We came here in winter and it wasn't that pretty, but I liked it," Kaliyeva said. "The scenery is familiar to me, the mountains remind me of Kazakhstan."

Though a culturally savvy young woman, Kaliyeva said she experienced frustration and shock upon entering college at UM. As a fifteen-year-old freshman, Kaliyeva felt immature and naïve next to her older classmates.

"It was like, hey these people are all older than me, they seem to know all the rules and I don't," Kaliyeva said. "I missed the experiences of heartbreaks, drinking parties, that peer pressure stuff. My peers all had experience with these things and I had to learn them."

To help her acclimate to college

life, Kaliyeva immersed herself in activities including the International Student Association and Undergraduate Peer Advising.

Carol Bates, coordinator of the peer-advising program, said Kaliyeva's work ethic and personable nature make her an asset to the volunteer program.

"She's a delightful individual, very committed to doing a good job and having fun doing it," Bates said. "When I think about her, I smile."

Though Kaliyeva plans to complete her bachelor's degree at UM, she remains unsure about her next destination. She is considering a move to New York, perhaps splitting her time between the Big Apple and Kazakhstan.

"I feel like everywhere is my home," Kaliyeva said. "I don't feel I have to choose anywhere specific to live. I have choices."



Krista Miller/Montana Kaimin

Adina Kaliyeva, a third-year business/finance student at UM from Kazakhstan, takes college seriously and plans to work for a large corporation after she earns her degree, so she can "delve right in to the big business world." Kaliyeva is 17 and loves to shop.

Israel rules out broad military action in Gaza

Mark Lavie  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM – Israeli leaders ruled out a large-scale military response to rocket fire from the Gaza Strip but threatened on Wednesday to cut off electricity or other vital supplies to the impoverished area if militants keep up attacks.

Pictures of panicked Israeli children and parents running for cover as the school year began in the battered town of Sderot have dominated news in Israel this week. The government has been forced to address growing anger and frustration over the inability of the high-tech military to counter the crude Palestinian weapons.

Israeli media quoted Defense Minister Ehud Barak as saying the need for a large operation in Gaza is approaching. But the Security Cabinet, made up of senior ministers, rejected an all-out offensive to move Israeli communities out of range by taking control of the areas where militants fire rockets.

The Israeli leadership said that for now it ordered an examination of options "to hit the services that supply the Gaza Strip from the state of Israel." Gaza, which was taken over by Hamas militants in June, remains dependent on Israel for much of its electricity, fuel and water.

Sari Bashi, director of the Israeli human rights group Gisha, said halting vital services to Gaza amounted to illegal collective punishment.

"Deliberately targeting civilians,

in Gaza or Sderot, is neither legal nor moral," she said.

Such a move would be Israel's first embargo of vital supplies to Gaza, although a private Israel company has briefly cut off fuel oil and gasoline over financial disputes.

Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum said his group is "looking with great concern at this serious and dangerous Israeli threat," which he termed "a new escalation against our people."

The Security Cabinet also pledged to continue smaller-scale strikes at rocket squads and launchers.

Vice Premier Haim Ramon, who first floated the idea of cutting off fuel and electricity, said the Hamas takeover of Gaza has made it into an "enemy country," and Israel has no obligation to help. "Imagine if al-Qaida if took over Gaza," he said. "Would anybody suggest we provide them with infrastructure?"

Israel withdrew from Gaza in 2005 and has mounted broad operations several times in the past, with casualties on both sides, but the rocket attacks always resumed after a pullout.

Cutting off vital supplies could cause widespread suffering and would likely bring harsh international condemnation and increase local support for Hamas.

Israel continued what the military called "routine" operations Wednesday. Israeli tanks and bulldozers moved into northern Gaza, and the forces brought 11 launchers out of the area, the military said.

Dusk commute



Hugh Carey/Montana Kaimin

Students cross the footbridge near the Adams Center as they finish classes Wednesday evening.

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# Suspected terrorists arrested in Germany

**David McHugh**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERLIN – Three militants from an Islamic group linked to al-Qaida were planning “imminent” bomb attacks against Americans in Germany when an elite anti-terrorist unit raided

their small-town hideout after months of intense surveillance, officials said Wednesday.

The men – two German converts to Islam and a Turkish citizen who prosecutors said shared a “profound hatred of U.S. citizens” – allegedly obtained military-style detonators and enough

chemicals to make bombs more powerful than those that killed 191 commuters in Madrid in 2004 and 52 in London in 2005.

Frankfurt International Airport and the nearby U.S. Ramstein Air Base reportedly were the suspects’ primary targets.

Prosecutors indicated police defused the danger earlier in the six-month investigation by stealthily substituting a harmless chemical for the raw bomb material amassed by the suspects. They said police moved in Tuesday when the alleged plotters seemed ready to try to make bombs.

Coming less than a week before the sixth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the U.S., it was the second consecutive day that European authorities announced they had thwarted a major attack. Danish officials said Tuesday they had broken up a bomb plot by arresting six Danish citizens and two other residents with links to senior al-Qaida terrorists.

*Associated Press writers Matthew Lee in Washington, Matt Moore in Frankfurt and Melissa Eddy in Berlin contributed to this report.*



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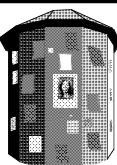
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